



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*  
John Hoeven  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH**  
NOVEMBER 2004

**WHEREAS**, every child in America, every child in North Dakota deserves a permanent, loving family and home; and

**WHEREAS**, through adoption, children have an opportunity for a brighter future, while bringing great joy to their adoptive families; and

**WHEREAS**, last year, 328 adoptions took place in North Dakota, with several children adopted from foster care; and

**WHEREAS**, today, there are children from foster care who do not have an identified adoptive family and are waiting for a loving, permanent home, and nearly all of these children have special needs that require extra patience and support to help them overcome previous hardships; and

**WHEREAS**, Adoption Awareness Month is an opportunity to increase awareness on behalf of children in North Dakota who are waiting for a family and to encourage North Dakotans to promote the value of family by supporting children in need of permanent homes and the families who adopt them; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 2004, **ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/  
John Hoeven  
Governor

Attest:

/s/  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State